

FISCAL NOTE

SB 1755 - HB 1927

March 10, 2001

SUMMARY OF BILL: Creates a pilot project to conduct suicide prevention programs in at least 225 middle and high schools in Tennessee. These programs are designed to help members of the school community recognize and respond to early warning signs in suicidal individuals. Components of the programs include training for teachers and counselors, seminars for parents and other citizens, and the establishment of peer support efforts. The Department of Education shall contract with The Jason Foundation, Inc. to carry out the pilot project. The Department of Education is required to evaluate the effectiveness of these programs in preventing youth suicide and report its findings to the General Assembly by April 1, 2003. The pilot project shall cease on July 1, 2003.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$135,700 One-Time

Estimate assumes:

- The pilot project is a one-year pilot and includes 225 schools.
- An average cost per school of \$350 for travel and salary costs for one or two staff to train teachers and counselors and needed materials. (225 schools x \$350 = \$78,750)
- An effective project evaluation consisting of an analysis of surveys completed by school system personnel and a study of referral trends for suicide intervention services would cost \$55,950.
- The cost of compiling and printing a report to the Education Committees of the General Assembly would cost approximately \$1,000.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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